



US DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

BLAST INJURY RESEARCH PROGRAM COORDINATING OFFICE

Protective Equipment

Interceptor Body Armor Blast Injury Mitigation

The US Army's PM SPIE Technical Management Division is sponsoring and conducting research to study body armor protection to help understand the level to which Service Members are protected by body armor systems when impacted by rifle and fragmentation threats. Components of the IBA system, which include the Soldier Plate Carrier System and the IOTV combined with the employment of hard armor protective inserts, have demonstrated mitigation of blast injuries in theater. Research includes sensor development and testing to measure static and dynamic loading characteristics (e.g., force, pressure, and time response). These efforts could help characterize and correlate the ballistic performance of the system to actual injuries. PM SPIE has also directed and sponsored the Aberdeen Test Center to conduct free field and shock tube blast overpressure tests of the Soldier Protective System.